



NAME: VANESSA AGUILERA
DISCIPLINE: PSYCHOLOGY

Past/current experiences working in the field of disabilities:

My first clinical placement was at a multidisciplinary developmental center, where I conducted neuropsychological evaluations for children ages 2 to 21. During my time there, I provided assessments for children with a broad range of neurodevelopmental challenges and disabilities ranging from global delays to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This past year, I worked at a community mental health center, where I served a heavily under-resourced population that was significantly impacted by trauma. As part of my responsibilities there, I provided screening assessments for ASD and helped provide families with psychoeducation and referral resources for further care.

Goals for your LEND training experience:

I hope to glean a better understanding of how to impact policy and promote change for individuals/families with disabilities in under-resourced communities.

What you wish to contribute, in the future, as a professional/family member in the field:

As a clinical psychologist in training, I hope to continue to advocate for and partner with the disability community to spread awareness, and impact large-scale systemic changes that improve accessibility to resources.